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## **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: January 19, 2012

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PIO# 2011 – 03

## Impersonating a Police Officer

On January 19, 2012, an undercover Miami Beach Police Officer arrested Matthew Thomas Scheidt (W/M, DOB 11/15/1993) for impersonating a police officer.

During the course of patrolling South Beach, the officer observed a white Ford Crown Victoria resembling an unmarked police vehicle pull up along side of him. The undercover officer made eye contact with the driver, and noticed that he was conducting himself as an officer, using a laptop, speaking with the officer using police jargon, and even advising the officer to buckle his seatbelt.

The undercover officer did not recognize the subject as a Miami Beach Police Officer, and proceeded to engage the subject in conversation, while requesting back up. Additional officers arrived and a traffic stop was initiated.

The ensuing investigation revealed that the subject had a .380 caliber Ruger under the front passenger seat, a Taser X-26, a set of hand cuffs, a radio, an Osceola County Police badge, several police t-shirts from the same county, and an empty ankle holster on his leg (Photo attached). The subject also has a prior arrest for impersonating a Physician's Assistant (PA) in Osceola County, FL.

The subject was transported to Miami Beach Police Department headquarters for further investigation, where he was subsequently arrested and charged with the Impersonating a Police Officer, Carrying a Concealed Firearm, and Carrying a Concealed Weapon. The subject was transported to Dade County Jail for processing.

Subject arrested: Matthew Thomas Scheidt W/M DOB 11/15/1993

Attachments: Arrest affidavit Subject photo Photo of confiscated items